

SFD Dispatch Policy and Guideline Manual

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OPEN BURNING REQUEST

Reference: City of Springdale Ordinance 46-2

In accordance with Springdale Fire Department policy, dispatchers are not allowed to give citizens permission to burn products outside. When a dispatcher receives a request, the dispatcher will refer the citizen to contact Fire Station 1.

Dispatchers need to be familiar with the City of Springdale Ordinance which outlines the guidelines for open burning.

1. A permit is required before burning commences. Permits may be obtained by calling Fire Station 1 between 0700 and 1700 hours. A fire may not be started before obtaining a permit.
2. Fires shall be small and 50 feet or more from any building. Any variances from this subsection must be approved by the fire department and must meet the fire code provisions.
3. A fire must be attended by a competent person at all times, which means the fire may not be too large in size or exceed the amount of locations for those attending the fire to properly manage and control it.
4. Fire control equipment must be available, for example, a garden hose, water extinguisher, or heavy equipment.
5. Burning plastics, rubber, shingles or anything that will create black smoke is prohibited.
6. The fire must be completely extinguished by dark.
7. Gasoline may not be used to start the fire.

These rules are in addition to those set out in the state fire prevention code and the fire department may require extinguishment of the fire if a complaint is received, such as the smoke blowing toward or into a person's home.

When dispatch receives a complaint about someone burning, the dispatcher will dispatch an engine company to investigate the incident.

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BURN REQUESTS IN RURAL AREAS

When a request is received to burn in a rural area which we dispatch for, the dispatcher needs to make a note of the address where the burn will take place. Give the requestor the phone number to the fire station in the area they live in so that they can make the FD aware of the burn. Tontitown FD does not need to be notified by the requestor.

BURN BANS

A burn ban is when the County Judge declares that open burning shall be prohibited when there is a potential for fire growth due to dry conditions.

The local fire chief or his designee also has the authority to prohibit open burning when fire weather conditions exist.

A Red Flag Warning means that critical fire weather conditions are either occurring now or will shortly. A combination of strong winds, low relative humidity and warm temperatures will create explosive fire growth potential.

When a Burn Ban is issued, the dispatcher shall notify the fire stations by making the proper radio announcement. The dispatcher shall also post the burn ban information in dispatch so that other dispatchers are aware of the burn ban.

Example: Sound Alert 1 for 8-10 seconds and announce *"Springdale to all stations and units, _____ County is under a burn ban. Station Clear _____ (give current time)."*